



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 26 September, 2017

1. The House met at 11.07 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 27 July, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Welcome Address by Mr Speaker**
Mr Speaker presented the following address to welcome Hon. Members:

Protocols:

I most warmly welcome us back from the annual recess. I trust that you had some rest even as you used the opportunity to interact with your constituents. I acknowledge that the socio-political environment in the country since we adjourned for the recess was not such as to give one the desired true rest. Indeed, we were on edge at a point to breach the recess and summon an emergency resumption of plenary, thanks to the Almighty God for calming the storms. I believe we all appreciate the times and thus the need for us to hit the ground running given the fact that there are many pending legislative measures requiring our urgent attention.

2. *Let me commend you all, my dear colleagues, for the informed restraint, maturity and patriotism in responding to the various incidences of unease that occasioned during the period of the recess. This is in line with the oath we all took to uphold and defend the constitution and I do not take it for granted. Indeed, I make bold to say that these recent developments are a pointer to the reality that constitutional amendment remains an unfinished business demanding our expeditious attention. I am confident we are well able to do the needful.*

3. *Several important developments took place while we were on recess. Most importantly, His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, returned from his medical vacation and has since transmitted his letter of resumption as required by the Constitution. We thank God for his safe return and pray God to perfect his healing and grant him good health and the strength to continue to pilot the affairs of state, successfully.*

4. During this period also, we got the good news from the National Bureau of statistics that the Nigerian economy had exited from recession. We must caution however that the implementation of policies and hard work necessary to sustain a sound and productive economy which the National Assembly highlighted in the Resolutions sent to the President earlier should be continued with even greater vigour to ensure that our people enjoy the positive impact of the exit. We shall in this respect make our oversight of the Executive branch more robust, effective and informed.

5. May I use this opportunity to commiserate with families of Nigerians who lost their lives in various incidents across the country. In particular, deaths that arose as a result of floods that ravaged Benue, Kano, Sokoto and some other states and deaths arising from crises in some parts of the country.

6. We are all aware that during the recess, the agitation by a group of persons based in the south eastern geopolitical zone of the country and the heightened call by many groups for restructuring of the country dominated discourse in Nigeria. It is in this regard, that I wish to commend our religious leaders, traditional rulers, leaders of various ethnic nationalities, elder statesmen, security agencies, the Governors and indeed governments of the states in the Federation for their display of statesmanship during this period. Indeed all patriotic Nigerians rose in unison to uphold the fundamental rights of all citizens to move freely and reside in any part of the federation as they choose, without let or hindrance. It appears to me that the citizens of this great country have sounded the message loud and clear that they stand for a united, prosperous and just Nigeria.

7. It is necessary to emphasize that Nigeria is a constitutional democracy with a clear legal framework for resolving differences that normally arise among citizens, between citizens and government as well as between the structures and arms of government. Make no mistake, as representatives of the people we have a duty to champion the protection and preservation of the rights of our constituents and peoples. We are very conscious and indeed jealous of the fundamental rights provided under our Constitution as well as the Human and Peoples Rights under the African Charter.

8. As an institution, this House stands firmly on the side of those who seek equity, fairness and justice so long as such is pursued in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which we, as Honorable Members have sworn to protect and preserve. Anyone or group who assaults our Constitution will not find a partner here because our oath of office repels it, but those who stand for justice, fairness and equity will have partners in us because our oath of office compels it. We would work shoulder to shoulder with all those working within the ambit of the constitution and the law for all Nigerians regardless of creed or ethnicity to be first class citizens as no nation can truly be first class if it harbours within its borders second or third class citizens.

9. Do we have a legislative response to the issues that have been thrown up? Is the National Assembly involved in the debate? Can restructuring take place outside the existing legal order? Indeed all the arguments about restructuring are at the end of the day, legislative issues. It may be necessary in due course for the National Assembly to have a second look at the issues that have been thrown up. The National Assembly as a representative and product of the people cannot act contrary to the wishes and aspirations of its constituents. We need to sift all the 'noise' and find out what exactly a majority of our people actually want? This is a responsibility we cannot outsource.

10. Going forward, it is my view that we need to revisit some aspects of the voting on Constitution Alteration. Luckily we still have the legislative window of conferencing with the Senate, where we have differences.

11. The other issue that should attract the attention of this Honourable House is the spate of strikes by various workers unions that engulfed the country in recent weeks. One common noticeable denominator is that all the strikes were premised on matters over which the unions have previously discussed with government and on which deliberations were either inconclusive or which resolutions reached were observed in breach. I commend the Executive and Labour unions for reaching an understanding and for Labour in particular for employing lawful processes in pushing their demands and the suspension of the strikes in order to give another chance for negotiations. I wish to direct all

House Committees with oversight responsibility for the agencies involved in these negotiations to urgently take appropriate legislative steps to aid full, final and permanent resolution of the issues for the sake of industrial peace and harmony.

12. Honourable Members are also aware that the media has been awash with scathing criticism of the institution of the House of Representatives over the NGO Regulation Bill which has passed second reading and is at Committee stage. Public criticism of the content of the Bill is a welcome development and there are many who are doing just that. Indeed it is the reason why every Bill is subjected to Public Hearing so that the inputs of stakeholders can be obtained to ensure public buy in. I hasten to say that all Nigerians and other corporate persons including non Nigerians, are stakeholders and have a right to support or oppose a Bill. However when opinions are targeted at disparaging the institution of the legislature then it becomes imperative to interrogate the motives driving such, especially when this emanates from those who should know.

13. Everyone should understand that the principal objective of the NGO Regulation Bill is to inject transparency, accountability and prevent the subversion of national security from both within and without. No one can nor indeed should gag the operations of NGOs in Nigeria, but just as they aspire for this freedom, it must be stated that freedom does not come without responsibility as there is no such thing as freedom to be irresponsible. There are also desperate attempts to instigate religious bodies and cultural Organizations to oppose the Bill by spreading falsehood that they are the target of this Bill. For the avoidance of doubt, let me categorically state once again that Churches, Mosques, Esusu, Market Women Associations as well as Local Quasi Financial Institutions are NOT NGOs and thus the bill has nothing to do with their operations. The legislative process cannot be short circuited. The National Assembly cannot be intimidated into abandoning its sacred legislative duties of providing a platform for Nigerians to agree or disagree on any proposed legislative measure. This openness and transparency is what the NGOs have always canvassed and promoted and they should therefore embrace this opportunity to interrogate the issues with open arms.

14. Honourable colleagues, it is clear that the things that bind us are overwhelmingly more than those that divide us. Indeed the individuals or groups who sow the seeds of discord and fan the embers of hate and disunity are in the negligible minority. As representatives of the people we must continually sensitise our people on the need to support all measures for the enthronement of a prosperous, united and just Nigeria where all citizens have equal stake under the governance of the Rule of Law. It was Martin Luther King, Jnr, who said "Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence ... " We must learn to love one another, understand each other and respect each other for Nigeria to reach her full potentials politically, socially and economically.

15. Of course all healthy democracies are noisy. But they are filled with noise that elicit debate not noise that incites to violence. When speech or noise leads to debate it is called free speech but when noise or speech incites to violence then that is hate speech. Hate speech has no place in a democracy and must never be tolerated or allowed. Words are powerful and once spoken it's difficult if not impossible to take them back. Words have the power to create the atmosphere in which we live. There is nothing that exist that was not created by or in consequence of spoken word(s). Hate speech multiplies words that have the capacity to drown the truth. In the midst of hate speech, the truth is usually the casualty. Therein lies the real danger of hate speech. Yet, it is only in the truth that everything find its worth.

16. It remains for me to charge that the prevailing situation should serve as impetus for more determined performance on our part. The genuine appreciation of these issues constitute a defining parameter for our job as we proceed in this second half of our tenure as the 8th House. Let us all resolve to get down to work and the Almighty God helping us we shall deliver.

17. God bless you all and bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

4. Messages

- (i) Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

21st August, 2017

*Right Honourable Yakubu Dogara
Speaker of the House of Representatives
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,

RESUMPTION OF OFFICE

In compliance with Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), I write to intimate the House that I have resumed my functions as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with effect from Monday, 21st August, 2017, after my medical follow-up in the United Kingdom.

Please accept, Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

- (ii) Mr Speaker also read a message from the Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:



**ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG.PRESIDENT/02/17

4 August, 2017

*Rt. Honourable Yakubu Dogara
Speaker
House of Representatives
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

REQUEST FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE PROPOSED PROMISSORY NOTE AND BOND ISSUANCE PROGRAMME

I forward herewith, for your kind consideration and passage into law, the Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

2. *The proposed amendment is necessitated by the need to commence the programme of promissory note and bond issuance to provide a final solution to the long-standing issue of outstanding obligations of the Government that have been quantified at a gross amount of ₦2.7 Trillion.*
3. *This programme has become imperative in view of the seriousness of the accumulation of these obligations, which are inimical to Government plans to revive the economy through the provision of improved and modernised infrastructure; and, at a human capital level, the issue of pension and promotional arrears, which go back as far as 2012, is causing untold hardships among those who have served. It also adversely affects the morale of those currently in service, and on whom we depend to implement Government programmes.*
4. *However, as you are no doubt aware, pension and salary arrears are recurrent expenditure and the Fiscal Responsibility Act 2007 (FRA) clearly stipulates in sections 41 (1) (a) and 44 (2) (b) that the proceeds of borrowing by Governments shall be applied solely towards capital expenditure.*
5. *In this regard, I request that the National Assembly approves the proposed amendment to the FRA to provide legal backing for the use of the mentioned instruments in the satisfaction of the accumulated obligations.*
6. *I look forward to an expedited treatment of this request by the Honourable members of the House and attach the draft Bill for your consideration.*
7. *Please accept, Rt. Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest regards.*

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

5. Announcement

Notification of Vacancy in the Seat of Kware/Wammako Federal Constituency:

Mr Speaker read the following notification:

Honourable Members,

I write to notify Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Section 68 (1) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, that the Seat of Kware/Wamakko Federal Constituency of Sokoto State has become vacant.

2. *This vacancy is as a result of the death of Hon. Abdullahi Mohammed Wamakko on 14th July, 2017, which was announced in the House Plenary on 18th July, 2017. He was a member of the All Progressives Congress (APC).*
3. *This notification is in fulfilment of Section 68 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, and for the records.*

6. Petition

A petition from the Danyaya Chambers (Legal Practitioners) on behalf of the New Generation Lawyers for Human Rights Protection under the Kwankwasiyya Movement, on the need for intervention of the Nigeria Police in the alleged political crisis in Kano State, was presented and laid by Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

7. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)

Need to Strengthen the Unity of Nigeria:

Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila (*Surulere I Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Strengthen the Unity of Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that there have been different agitations across Nigeria leading to divergent views on the suitability of redefining the structures upon which the unity of Nigeria rests on. These agitations have resulted in the proscription of groups, loss of lives and judicial pronouncements;

Concerned that events of the last few weeks brought Nigeria close to precipice but for the determination of Nigerians in their various show of commitment to the peace and unity of the country; hence the urgent need for intervention;

Convinced that this is the time for Members who hold brief for their teeming constituents to drop partisan politics, ethnic and religious interests and speak in one voice to save our country from disintegration;

Assured that the Members stand for the co-dependence of the regions of this country.

Resolves to:

- (i) immediately set up a strong Committee to liaise with all stakeholders across the six geopolitical zones for practical solutions to rebuild the unity of Nigeria and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) revisit the issue of devolution of powers in the interest of the unity of Nigeria (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that there have been different agitations across Nigeria leading to divergent views on the suitability of redefining the structures upon which the unity of Nigeria rests on. These agitations have resulted in the proscription of groups, loss of lives and judicial pronouncements;

Concerned that events of the last few weeks brought Nigeria close to precipice but for the determination of Nigerians in their various show of commitment to the peace and unity of the country; hence the urgent need for intervention;

Convinced that this is the time for Members who hold brief for their teeming constituents to drop partisan politics, ethnic and religious interests and speak in one voice to save our country from disintegration;

Assured that the Members stand for the co-dependence of the regions of this country.

Resolved to:

- (i) immediately set up a strong Committee to liaise with all stakeholders across the geopolitical zones for practical solutions to rebuild the unity of Nigeria and report back within eight (8) for further legislative action; and
- (ii) revisit the issue of devolution of powers in the interest of the unity of Nigeria (HR. 70/2017)

Members of the Special Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to Strengthen the Unity of Nigeria:

Mr Speaker named the Membership of the Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Yussuff Sulaimon Lasun	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila	—	Deputy Chairman
(3)	Hon. Buba Jibril	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ado Doguwa	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Pally Iriase	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Leonard Ogor	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Yukubu Barde	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Chukwuka Wilfred Onyema	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Fatima Binta Bello Maigari	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Olabode Ayorinde	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Idagbo Ochiglegor	—	Member
(12)	Hon. Nnenna Ijeoma Ukeje	—	Member
(13)	Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari	—	Member
(14)	Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa	—	Member
(15)	Hon. Betara Aliyu Muktar	—	Member

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Film and Video Censors Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1091).
- (2) Zonal Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1097).
- (3) National Institute for Nigerian Languages Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1098).
- (4) Counterfeit and Fake Drugs and Unwholesome Processed Foods (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1099).
- (5) University of Abuja Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1100).
- (6) University of Benin (Transitional Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1101).

- (7) University of Calabar Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1102).
- (8) University of Ibadan Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1103).
- (9) University of Ilorin Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1104).
- (10) University of Jos Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1105).
- (11) University of Lagos Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1106).
- (12) University of Maiduguri Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1107).
- (13) University of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1108).
- (14) University of Port Harcourt Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1109).
- (15) Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1110).
- (16) Obafemi Awolowo University (Transitional Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1111).
- (17) Ahmadu Bello University (Transitional Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1112).
- (18) Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1113).
- (19) Bayero University Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1114).
- (20) Nnamdi Azikiwe University Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1115).
- (21) Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1116).

9. Presentation of Report

Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Urgent Need to Investigate the Huge Debts Owed to the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC) by Major and Independent Oil Marketers/Sabotage by some Oil Marketers:

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

10. Need for Urgent Measures to Permanently Address the Perennial Flood in Benue State
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that torrential rainfall and release of massive volumes of water from the Lagdo Dam in the Republic of Cameroon always result in perennial flood in Benue State with the attendant and devastating environmental, social and health challenges to thousands of residents, many of whom become displaced;

Also notes that the flood has become a yearly occurrence since 2007, the most devastating episodes occurring in 2012, 2015 and 2017, with the 2012 flood coming with very dire humanitarian and economic consequences, as it ravaged communities in Makurdi, Apa, Agatu, Otukpo, Guma, Buruku, Tarka and Katsina-Ala Local Government Areas, in the process, displacing thousands of people and causing colossal damage to crops, farmlands, houses, roads and bridges;

Concerned by the Report released by the Benue State Emergency Management Agency (BSEMA) that the current flood in Makurdi has displaced over 100,000 people, thereby rendering them homeless, led to the death of three persons and with over 100,000 houses devastated, while farmlands and food storage facilities were washed away;

Also concerned by the number of communities affected by the current flood, including Achusa, Idye, Welfare Quarters, Mobile Barracks, New Kanshio Layout, Wadata market, Wurukum market, Gyado Villa, Kucha Utebe, Bregeries, Nyiman layout, behind Civil Service Commission, Radio Benue, Industrial Layout, BIPC Quarters, Uni Agric Road, Katungu, Genabe, behind Officon, UniAgric Study Centre, behind GTBank, Wadata Old Prison, Agboughul-Wadata and Demekpe communities;

Aware of the apprehension by the Federal Government about disbursement of ecological funds to States for fear of diversion of the funds, however, there is need to adopt strategies to ensure compliance for the sake of affected Nigerians;

Recalls that the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, 12 August, 2015, adopted a Resolution on the massive flooding of River Benue and urged the Federal Government to construct dams on the River for agricultural purposes and controlling of flooding, establish a Joint Commission with the Government of Cameroon to manage the Lagdo Dam and River Benue Waterways and dredge River Benue to provide permanent solution to the flooding, but these have not been done, hence the exacerbation of the flood in Benue State;

Cognizant that the perennial flooding is now assuming such a disastrous proportion that needs permanent and direct steps to be taken to address the mounting and compounding challenges;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to urgently commence the dredging of River Benue and construct dams on the River, especially on the Upper Benue at Dasin Hausa in Adamawa State to boost agricultural production and control the flood by conserving the excess water to serve as a buffer to the water being released annually from the Lagdo Dam in Cameroon;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to victims of the flood, most of whom are currently in camps and shelters in Makurdi, Benue State;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to adequately fund or equip NEMA, the Fire Service and other security agencies to cope with such disasters as they never deploy equipment to evacuate affected citizens; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Environment and Habitat to ensure that urgent measures are taken to permanently address the perennial flood in Benue State (*Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Orker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency and 5 Others*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 71/2017).

Motion referred to the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Environment and Habitat, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

11. Need to Construct Roads to the Nigerian Crude Oil Onshore Terminals

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the critical importance of the oil and gas industry as the fulcrum of the economy with oil and gas exports accounting for more than 98% of the nation's earnings;

Also notes that since oil was discovered in commercial quantity in 1956 with full production commencing in 1958, five major terminals from which crude oil is loaded for export have been built at Bonny in 1961, Escravos in 1968, Forcados and Qua Iboe in 1971 and Brass in 1975, all spread across the four States of Rivers, Delta, Akwa Ibom and Bayelsa;

Observes that since the commissioning of those terminals, no motorable road had been built to service them and also benefit the host communities, a situation that is contributing to the feeling of neglect and exclusion by the host communities which is compounded by the environmental degradation and the attendant devastating impact on their means of livelihood and health;

Concerned that the continued neglect of the communities is a catalyst for endless agitations, militancy and sabotage of oil installations with the resultant loss of huge revenues to the nation;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to make provisions for road infrastructure to the five major oil terminals of Bonny, Escravos, Forcados, Qua-Iboe and Brass in the 2018 budget; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek D. Abiante — Andoni/Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 72/2017).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

12. Call to Investigate the 2016/2017 Federal Civil Service Recruitment Exercise with a View to Identifying Anomalies

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that there was a recruitment exercise conducted by the Federal Civil Service Commission in 2016 during which many youths from all over the federation applied online and were looking forward to a competitive screening and interview in accordance with best practices;

Also notes that many of the applicants had their dreams of working for the Federal Government dashed by the failure of the Commission to inform them about further processes regarding the exercise which was alleged to have lacked transparency and was not conducted in accordance with extant rules and was also in breach of the Federal Character Principles, entry qualifications and proper placement of candidates;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Public Service Matters, and Federal Character to determine whether the 2016/2017 recruitment exercise by the Federal Civil Service Commission was carried out in accordance with laid down principles for such an exercise and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba — Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Negatived.

13. Call on the Federal Government to Provide Grants to Indigenous Oil Companies to Enable them Compete Favourably with Multinational Companies

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that oil is the nation's foremost revenue earner and that indigenous oil/service companies are unable to compete with foreign oil companies in bidding for big contracts from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) as they do not have the funds to make the bids and undertake the jobs even when they have the expertise;

Also aware that the inability of indigenous oil/service companies to obtain those big contracts that could grow them into big companies that would provide services for the country and offer employment to many citizens has left the country to perpetually depend on foreign companies for exploration and exploitation of oil and they take the enormous profits back to their countries of origin;

Notes that countries all over the world such as the United States of America support their indigenous companies like it did during the economic meltdown when auto companies, banks, insurance companies, etc. which were in distress were given bailout funds, and South-Korea did the same by granting bailout to its electronics and shipping companies which are now the back bones of the country's economic fluency and have grown into thriving multi-national companies that are boosting the country's economy;

Believes that if the Federal Government provides grants to indigenous oil/service and other companies to enable them obtain big contracts from the NNPC and other sources, the companies will eventually grow to compete favourably with foreign companies and ultimately plow back the profits into the nation's economy for the overall benefit of the country;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to determine the measures that would enable indigenous oil/service companies to receive bailout grants or loans at a single digit interest rate from the Central Bank of Nigeria to enable them compete favourably with foreign oil companies in bidding for big contracts from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and report back within twelve (12) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Benjamin Ikani Okolo — Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Negatived.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Roads Fund for the Purpose of Financing Routine and Periodic Maintenance of National Roads and for Related Matters (HB. 49 and HB. 163) — Third Read.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Roads Fund for the Purpose of Financing Routine and Periodic Maintenance of National Roads and for Related Matters (HB. 49 and HB. 163) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and passed.

15. **A Bill for an Act to Regulate the Medical Residency Training Programme in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 982) — Third Read.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Regulate the Medical Residency Training Programme in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 982) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and passed.

16. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Radiographers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. R1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 676) — Third Read.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Radiographers (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. R1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 676) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and passed.

17. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Law Reform Commission Act, Cap. N118, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to remove the Bottlenecks to the Commission's Reform Initiatives, Ensure its Autonomy and bring the Act in Conformity with the Provisions of the 1999 Constitution; to, among Others, Empower the Commission to Establish Zonal Offices and Subject Appointments of the Board to the Confirmation of the Senate and to Allow for the Reference of Laws for Amendment by Private Citizens and Non-Governmental Organizations and for Other Related Matters (HB. 460, HB. 655 and HB. 923) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Law Reform Commission Act, Cap. N118, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to remove the Bottlenecks to the Commission's Reform Initiatives, Ensure its Autonomy and bring the Act in Conformity with the Provisions of the 1999 Constitution; to, among Others, Empower the Commission to Establish Zonal Offices and Subject Appointments of the Board to the Confirmation of the Senate and to Allow for the Reference of Laws for Amendment by Private Citizens and Non-Governmental Organizations and for Other Related Matters (HB. 460, HB. 655 and HB. 923) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Evelyn Omavowan Oboro — Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie Federal Constituency and 2 Others*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Justice.

18. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Polytechnic, Shendam, Plateau State and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Management and for Related Matters (HB. 1050) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Polytechnic, Shendam, Plateau State and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Management and for Related Matters (HB. 1050) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Johnbull Shekarau — Shendam/Mikang/Qua'an/Pan Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

19. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, No. 14, 2015 to Empower the Organisation to carry out Inspection of all Goods to be Imported into Nigeria at all the Nigerian Borders, Sea and Air Ports to ensure Quality Control of all Imported Goods and for Related Matters (HB. 980) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Consideration of Reports

- (i) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

Report on the Petition by Samuel Umeadi Moge kwu:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Samuel Umeadi Moge kwu against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on alleged wrongful dismissal from Service and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

"Urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to reverse the dismissal of Mr Samuel Umeadi Moge kwu from service to retirement and pay him all his entitlements, including gratuity and pension, with effect from the date he was dismissed from the service" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Samuel Umeadi Moge kwu against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on alleged wrongful dismissal from Service and approved the Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(ii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Ude Abara Chika:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ude Abara Chika against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on wrongful termination of his appointment, stoppage of salary and unfair hearing and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

"Urge the Federal Road Safety Commission to reinstate Ude Abara Chika" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ude Abara Chika against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on wrongful termination of his appointment, stoppage of salary and unfair hearing and approved the Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(iii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Toki Rainbow Microfinance Bank Ltd:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Toki Rainbow Microfinance Bank Ltd against Julius Berger Plc for debt owed for over 20 years and refusal to obey Court Order to pay and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

"Urge Julius Berger Plc to obey the Court Order to pay the debt owed Toki Rainbow Microfinance Bank as at December 2016 in the sum of Four Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Four Hundred and Fifty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty-Seven Naira (₦422,457, 567) being the proceeds and accrued interest in respect of the contract for over 20 years" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Toki Rainbow Microfinance Bank Ltd against Julius Berger Plc for debt owed for over 20 years and refusal to obey Court Order to pay and approved the Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(iv) Committee on Public Petitions:**Report on the Petition by Hon. Macaulay I. Obia:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Hon. Macaulay I. Obia against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on its failure to settle his entitlements since his employment in 1992 and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Order read; consideration deferred to enable the Committee on Rules and Business examine the appropriateness of the recommendations vis-a-vis the relevant laws and extant rules upon which the recommendations were made.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration on the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Hon. Macaulay I. Obia against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on its failure to settle his entitlements since his employment in 1992.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(v) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the petition by Professor Chibuike Uche:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Professor Chibuike Uche against his dismissal from University of Nigeria, Nsukka and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"Urge the Governing Council of University of Nigeria, Nsukka to reverse the dismissal order as if it never happened" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"Allow Professor Chibuike Uche to resign with effect from the date of the purported dismissal" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Professor Chibuike Uche against his dismissal from University of Nigeria, Nsukka and approved Recommendations (i) and (ii).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Kisha T. Alabura:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kisha T. Alabura against the National Youth Service Corps for unlawful termination of appointment and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

That Kisha T. Alabura and the National Youth Service Corps should be commended for the amicable settlement of the matter (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kisha T. Alabura against the National Youth Service Corps for unlawful termination of appointment and approved the Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(vii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Kareem Fatai Olaniran:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kareem Fatai Olaniran against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on unlawful termination of his appointment and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

"Urge the Federal Road Safety Commission to reinstate Kareem Fatai Olaniran in line with the FRSC Disciplinary Committee's (FDC) Report that discharged and acquitted him of the offence of extorting money while on patrol" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kareem Fatai Olaniran against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on unlawful termination of his appointment and approved the Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(viii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Diya Grace Ajibola:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Diya Grace Ajibola against the National Examinations Council (NECO) on termination of appointment and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

That the decisions of the first disciplinary panel that heard and took oral evidence be upheld (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

“That the National Examinations Council (NECO) should reinstate Diya Grace Ajibola” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Diya Grace Ajibola against the National Examinations Council (NECO) on termination of appointment and approved Recommendations (i) and (ii).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 27 September, 2017 at 10.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.58 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker